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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, February 5, 2007, at 2 p.m.

Senate

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2007

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable BARACK OBAMA, a Senator from the State of Illinois.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Sovereign Lord, permit us to feel Your nearness and to know the inspiration of Your presence. May our closeness to You help us to choose light over darkness, love over hate, and good over evil.

Today, provide for the needs of the Members of this body. Move among them, instructing, lifting, and guiding them, so that whatever they do in word or deed, they will do it to glorify You. Give them the confidence, security, and peace that comes from developing a friendship with You as they open their hearts to the inflow of Your spirit. Show them what needs to be changed, and give them the courage and wisdom to do Your will.

We pray in Your glorious Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable BARACK OBAMA led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, February 1, 2007.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable BARACK OBAMA, a Senator from the State of Illinois, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President Pro tempore.

Mr. OBAMA thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SENATOR JIM BUNNING

Mr. REID. Mr. President, my goal as a boy was to be a baseball player. I loved to listen to those baseball games, and I could see myself in my mature years chasing balls down in the outfield and hitting doubles to bring in the winning run. That didn't happen in my life, but I have had the wonderful experience here in the Senate of being able to talk, as I was for a few minutes this morning, to a member of the Baseball Hall of Fame, JIM BUNNING.

I hope these pages here understand that they have a rare opportunity, to be able to be in the same room, to shake someone's hand who is a member

of the Hall of Fame. It was my first time, during Thanksgiving, to visit the Baseball Hall of Fame, and I came away with the realization of how few people are in that Baseball Hall of Fame. JIM BUNNING is one of them. We talked a few minutes this morning, and I asked him questions, such as: Who are the good catchers who caught you? And he said: Lots of them. And we talked today about Clay Dalrymple, the man who caught his perfect game, and Gus Triandos.

So just a little offshoot, Mr. President. We are so fortunate to be Members of the Senate for lots of reasons, not the least of which is that we are able to serve with a member of the Baseball Hall of Fame.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 11:45 a.m. The first 30 minutes will be controlled by the Republicans, and the next 30 minutes will be controlled by the majority. There is additional time for Members to speak in morning business until the hour of 11:45, if they wish. At that time, the Senate will proceed into executive session to consider three judicial nominations. The debate time on the three nominations is limited to 10 minutes; therefore, Members can expect rollcall votes as early as 11:55 this morning.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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